

# City of San Antonio Code Enforcement Services Department New Building Standards Board Overview

### **Code Enforcement Services**

The Code Enforcement Services Department enforces minimum property maintenance and other related codes. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life and make a positive difference by ensuring a safe, healthy environment for all neighborhoods through education, partnerships, and enforcement.

## **Sweeping Changes to Enforcement of Property Maintenance Codes**

On May 5, 2011 the San Antonio City Council approved the new San Antonio Property Maintenance Code (SAPMC), which strengthens, updates and clarifies minimum property maintenance requirements for property owners and tenants. In addition, it created a new Building Standards Board (BSB) to hear appeals to and violations of the SAPMC, as well as adjudicate cases related to unsafe structures.

The new BSB will be citizen-based and include 14 members appointed by City Council. Ten (10) members are to be appointed by City Council district, three (3) at-large and the Mayor's appointee.

# **Building Standards Board**

<u>Board Membership</u> Ideal candidates for the **district appointments** will have experience in the following areas:

- Structural engineering
- Architecture
- Building/property maintenance
- Home inspection
- Concerned citizen

- Historic preservation
- Neighborhood leadership
- Construction
- Real estate

The three (3) at-large and the Mayor's appointments are prescribed for the following categories:

- Single-family rental property manager
- Multi-family rental property manager
- Commercial rental property manager
- Historic preservation professional

<u>Board Panels and Responsibilities</u> The BSB will consist of two panels of seven members. One panel will hear and rule on appeals to and violations of the SAPMC. Property owners will be allowed to appeal a Notice of Violation to the BSB based on issues of interpretation, intent, and application of code requirements. The BSB may issue civil penalties for failure to comply with the SAPMC. Another panel will rule on cases related to the repair or demolition of unsafe structures.

In addition to the aforementioned responsibilities, the entire BSB may meet to review and consider amendments to the SAPMC and make recommendations to the Code Official for adoption.

<u>Terms and Hearings</u> All appointments to the BSB are for two year terms. Each panel will hold a hearing twice per month. The length of each hearing will be based on the number of cases before the panel and the specific circumstances involved.

### **Interested in Serving on the Board?**

If you are interested in sitting on this new City board please complete the application located at <a href="https://www.sanantonio.gov/clerk">www.sanantonio.gov/clerk</a>. Make sure to indicate on the application your specific areas of experience. For immediate consideration please submit your application by the close of business (4:30 PM) on August 5, 2011

For questions about the application or appointment process, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 210-207-7253.